

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 08296 141452Z

45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 IGA-02 COME-00

EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /185 W

----- 122997

P R 141421Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7748

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 8296

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PE

SUBJECT: STUDENT RIOTING AND PLANNED GENERAL
STRIKE IN AREQUIPA

REF: LIMA 8168

SUMMARY: AFTER LULL OVER WEEKEND, STUDENT RIOTING IN
PROTEST OVER MILGOV CRACKDOWN ON TEACHER UNION BEGAN
AGAIN IN AREQUIPA NOV 12, AND PLANNED GENERAL STRIKE
THERE ANNOUNCED BEGINNING NOV 15. PUNO APPARENTLY
CALMER, BUT SCHOOLS STILL CLOSED. LIMA HAD SEVERAL
DEMONSTRATIONS WITH LIMITED VIOLENCE NOV 9, BUT CALM
SINCE THEN. TWELVE BISHOPS HAVE CALLED ON MILGOV TO
BRING TO TRIAL AND TO FREE ARRESTED TEACHERS.

1. RENEWED RIOTING BY UNIVERSITY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS
BEGAN NOV 12 IN AREQUIPA AFTER RELATIVELY CALM WEEKEND.
AS DURING PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS, STUDENTS STONED CARS,
ATTACKED POLICE, ERECTED STREET BARRICADES AND
ENFORCED CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS. POLICE STILL CONFINING
REACTION TO TEAR GAS, WATER CANNONS AND ARREST OF THOSE THEY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 08296 141452Z

CAN CATCH.

2. AREQUIPA'S PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS AND STUDENT GROUPS HAVE ANNOUNCED A GENERAL STRIKE BEGINNING NOV 15 UNLESS SUTEP TEACHER UNION LEADERS ARE RELEASED AND RESTORED TO JOBS BEFORE THEN. THIS IS NOT THE SAME MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNIST-LED DEFENSE FRONT WHICH DIRECTED AREQUIPA'S LAST TWO SUCCESSFUL GENERAL STRIKES, BUT IT CONTAINS ROUGHLY THE SAME ORGANIZATIONS.

3. CUZCO IS APPARENTLY RELATIVELY CALM AGAIN WITH SCHOOLS OPEN AND CONFRONTATION IN PUNO SEEMS TO HAVE EASED SOMEWHAT THOUGH SCHOOLS STILL CLOSED. LIMA HAD SEVERAL PRO-SUTEP DEMONSTRATIONS NOV 9 BY SEVERAL HUNDRED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND TEACHERS, WHICH RESULTED IN LOCALIZED VIOLENCE AND REPORTEDLY ABOUT SIXTY ARRESTS. PARTICIPATING POLITICAL GROUPS INCLUDED PATRIA ROJA, VANQUARDIA REVOLUCIONARIA, MOVIMIENTO DE IZQUIERDA REVOLUCIONARIA, BANDERA ROJA, AND ONE APRA STUDENT GROUP (FREU). ASIDE FROM LATTER, APRA STILL APPARENTLY UNINVOLVED IN PROTESTS, WHILE PCP/MOSCOW-LINE DAILY PAPER HAS FINALLY BROKEN SILENCE TO SUPPORT MILGOV ARREST OF SUTEP LEADERS. NO LABOR CONFEDERATION HAS TAKEN PUBLIC STAND, BUT MANY INDEPENDENT-LEFTIST MINERWORKER UNIONS AND MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS OF BANKWORKERS HAVE ATTACHED MILGOV CRACKDOWN. PROTESTING GROUPS NOW CLAIMING UP TO 1,000 TEACHERS ARRESTED AND 2,000 FIRED, BUT WE STILL BELIEVE 250 AND 350 ARE MORE LIKELY FIGURES.

3. TWELVE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS HAVE JOINED EARLIER STAND OF BISHOP AND PREFECT OF AREQUIPA IN PETITIONING MILGOV TO TRY AND TO RELEASE ARRESTED TEACHERS (IMPLYING THEIR INNOCENCE). PRESS STILL EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS IN COVERAGE OF PROTESTS EXCEPT FOR WEEKLY CARETAS WHICH CONDEMNED CRACKDOWN AND CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH SUPPOSEDLY FUGITIVE ACTING SEC/GEN OF SUTEP.

4. COMMENT: THOUGH NOT OUT-OF-HAND, AND CERTAINLY NO THREAT TO MILGOV'S SURVIVAL, THIS ISSUE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE FADING AWAY. PRESENT CONFRONTATION IS STILL UNRESOLVED TEST OF DURABILITY OF MILGOV'S RECENT HARD LINE TOWARD OPPONENTS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LIMA 08296 141452Z

THOUGH MILGOV'S STRATEGIC POSITION IS NOW BETTER THAN BEFORE DUE TO PCP/MOSCOW SUPPORT AND APRA NON-INVOLVEMENT, THIS CONFRONTATION WITH THE TEACHERS WOULD BE AN UNPOPULAR ISSUE ON WHICH TO BASE POSSIBLY VIOLENT SHOWDOWN.
BELCHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, GENERAL STRIKES, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LIMA08296
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731135/aaaaazhl.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LIMA 8168
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT RIOTING AND PLANNED GENERAL STRIKE IN AREQUIPA
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005